



## December 05, 2012 Meeting Minutes

Adrianne Browning\*

Jason Abston\*

Denise Creek\*

Jessica Dunnegan

Judy Hatcher

James Kennedy\*

Betty Keown\*

Keith Lancaster\*

Don Loiacano\*

Sophie McAdams\*

Heather Nicklies\*

Casey Scruggs\*

Tanya Vincent\*

Melvin Watson\*

Eric Wolfe

\*--attended meeting

Staff Council meeting opened with Wade Pinkard, Employee Wellness Manager, speaking to the group about the new WKU Employee Wellness program that will begin January 3, 2013. This new program allows employees to earn points by participating in eligible health and awareness activities. Once an employee earns 100 points they will be able to receive a valuable incentive. You can learn more about the program at the following link

<http://www.wku.edu/employeeewellness/>. Wade provided valuable information about the new program and encourages all full-time employees to participate.

From the Employees Wellness website it states *"The Employee Wellness Program enhances the personal and professional lives of WKU employees by providing educational opportunities, programs, and services that promote and support healthy lifestyle behaviors. Health Services is developing a comprehensive wellness program for employees."*

If you have any questions about the new program please contact Wade Pinkard at 745-4393. A staff-all e-mail will be sent on Jan 3<sup>rd</sup> with a link to the employee wellness portal. There you will be able to sign up and begin the program. The council thanked Wade for his time and look forward to the new Employee Wellness program at WKU.

The next topic of discussion included DFM and the staff satisfaction surveys. All surveys with DFM have been completed. We hope to have the results by February. After all the results are presented, the Staff Council will formulate a plan of response. We hope the survey has given DFM employees a place to voice any concerns or issues that need to be addressed. There will be an additional Staff Satisfaction survey for the remaining WKU staff that will be online mid-January. The council encourages all employees to participate and let your voice be heard. Watch your e-mail for additional information and links to the survey.

Discussion of part-time benefits continues for the council. Don Loiacano encourages more employees to voice their opinions about part-time employees and any type of benefits that could be given to this group of employees. If you would like to e-mail any ideas or concerns, please e-mail [Donald.Loiacano@wku.edu](mailto:Donald.Loiacano@wku.edu). He looks forward to hearing from part-time and full-time employees. It was also decided that some members of the Staff Council will research other University's policies regarding part-time employee benefits. We will also research the number of part-time employees, different categories and what would be the best benefit to pursue. The findings of our research and any further e-mails will be discussed at our next meeting. It is the Staff Council's goal to submit a report of our findings to Dr. Ransdell in the spring.

Staff Council discussed the meeting that was held on November 14 at South Campus dealing with the closing of the Food Court. We reviewed the topics and issues that were discussed at the meeting, most notably the feeling at South

Campus that the closure was poorly communicated and that providing food services had an impact on several issues, including student health and retention rates. We are glad to see WKU and Mr. Meszaros taking intermediate steps such as adjusting the book store hours, improving the food quality and creating "value meals" (for meal plans). We will be following up with him in 2013 to determine his progress on promises he made to offer South Campus specific surveys to better determine needs and get Aramark to issue a "waiver" that would allow WKU to seek other sources for South Campus food services.

The council received an anonymous e-mail asking why the campus was not smoke free yet indicating it was supposed to be smoke free by Spring 2012. The council believes he/she is referring to the resolution sent from University Senate to Dr. Ransdell in December 2011 that the senate supports a tobacco-free campus by Spring 2012. There was a response from the President found in the October 28, 2011 Herald :

"President Gary Ransdell said he is waiting for a consensus among the University Senate, Staff Council and Student Government Association before proceeding any further...Following the resolution from the senate, Ransdell said he requested a recommendation from the Staff Council and the SGA...Staff Council chair Diane Carver said the council voted in February against a smoke-free campus...SGA passed a resolution in September that would make WKU a tobacco-free campus only if WKU lifts the requirement for freshmen and sophomores to live on campus."

The topic of a smoke free campus continues to be on the mind of several individuals around campus. The council continues to support EHS's and DFM's efforts to create designated smoking areas, 30-ft buffers around buildings and the interactive map which will show the designated smoking areas around campus.

Another e-mail wanted the council to check into making the regional campus's smoke free. It was determined the Designated Smoking Committee would look into any concerns or complaints with the regional campuses smoking policies and report back at the next meeting. We encourage any staff members from other campuses to please send us e-mails regarding the smoking policy or any other concerns the council might be able to help you with. We look forward to hearing from all staff members of WKU.

Keith Lancaster wanted to remind all staff members to be sure to get flu shots. There are plenty of shots still available at Health Services. There have been confirmed positive flu tests on campus.

On January 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am at Van Meter Hall, speaker Richard Paul will present Lighten up and Laugh. Richard Paul's program is a stress reduction program that promotes wellness and laughter in the workplace. All faculty, staff, and students are welcome to attend. To learn more please click here: <http://www.motivationalspeakerrichardpaul.com/>. This should be a great way to start the year off.

Please let us **continue to hear from ALL staff**, via the anonymous drop box, directly to the Staff Council collectively, or to individual members of the council. We need to know issues you have or believe need addressing so that we can serve you better.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00.

**FYI:** Visit the Staff Council web page at <http://www.wku.edu/staffcouncil/> . It offers a wide variety of information. Click Contact Us to access an anonymous e-mail form where you can voice your concerns, questions, suggestions, and any ideas you would like Staff Council to address.

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